

## Arab team meets Shultz today

WASHINGTON (R) — An Arab League delegation led by North African Foreign Minister Abdal Karim Al Iryam will hold talks with Secretary of State George Shultz on Thursday, State Department said Wednesday. "We welcome the Arab League delegation and look forward to sharing assessments of regional security and efforts to bring about a negotiated settlement to the Iran-Iraq war," department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters. The Arab delegation would also meet Vice-President George Bush, Mr. Reagan said. He also said Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, based in Washington on a visit to the Gulf region to discuss the same topics, declined to give any details of Mr. Murphy's itinerary. The State Department's chief Middle East expert was due to visit Iraq and members of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The Arab League delegation visit results from a meeting of the organization's foreign ministers in Tunis last month which passed a resolution unanimously urging an end to the Gulf war and criticizing Iran for refusing to negotiate an end to it. Redman said the Arab League had despatched delegations to the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to urge strong U.N. action to end the war.

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### Envoy meets U.N. chief

NEW YORK (Petra) — Jordan's permanent envoy to the U.N., Abdullah Salih, met here on Tuesday with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The meeting came upon request from Mr. Perez de Cuellar within the framework of current consultations on the proposed international peace conference on the Middle East. Mr. Salih outlined to the U.N. secretary general Jordan's view vis-a-vis the international conference.

### Tindemans to visit Israel this weekend

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans will visit Israel at the weekend to promote the European Community (EC) call for an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Mr. Tindemans, whose country at present holds the EC presidency, is also due to visit Tunisia and Algeria before June. The dates still have to be set. The spokesman added that Mr. Tindemans would be ready to meet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat although no meeting has been arranged.

### Challenger astronaut's widow files suit

ORLANDO (R) — The widow of Challenger astronaut Michael Smith on Wednesday filed a \$1.5 billion lawsuit against the United States government, rocket builder Morton Thiokol Inc. and a former top manager of the U.S. space agency. The suit, filed in Orlando federal court, accuses Thiokol of "reckless disregard" for the lives of astronauts when it built the booster rockets that were later blamed for the destruction of the space shuttle Challenger on Jan. 28, 1986. The complaint seeks \$500 million in actual damages from the three defendants and \$1 billion in punitive damages from Thiokol.

### Thatcher rejects call for probe

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Wednesday rejected a request by former Prime Minister Sir James Callaghan for an inquiry into charges that the secret service plotted to overthrow a Labour Party government in the 1970s. Mrs. Thatcher told the House of Commons that security service Director-General Sir Anthony Duff inquired into the allegations over the past four months. "He has given me his personal assurance that the stories are false. He advised me he has found no evidence of any truth in the allegations," Mrs. Thatcher said.

### Morocco foresees cooperation with Algeria

RABAT (R) — King Hassan has predicted "an era of sincere and continuous cooperation" between Morocco and Algeria following his meeting with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on Monday. In a message to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia published on Wednesday by the national news agency MAP, King Hassan thanked the Saudi monarch for sponsoring the meeting held on the Algerian-Moroccan border.

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## Jordan and Egypt review coordinated efforts towards Mideast peace conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Developments in the Middle East region and coordination between Egypt and Jordan on efforts for a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict were the topics of discussion here Wednesday at a meeting grouping Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid.

During the meeting, which was attended also by Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbe, a general review took place on steps to be taken for further coordinating the two countries' efforts for arriving at a just and durable settlement for the Middle East problem within the framework of the proposed international conference with the participation of all concerned parties and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Agreement was reached on steps to be taken for further increasing bilateral cooperation, according to a statement by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, which did not disclose further details.

Petra said that the two sides were to sign minutes of the committee's deliberations upon the conclusion of its sessions.

After Wednesday's talks, both prime ministers were received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the Royal Court.

Dr. Rifai conveyed to Prince Hassan greetings from Egyptian

President Hosni Mubarak and reviewed with the Prince steps taken by the two sides for promoting economic cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Masri, Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher, Mr. Abdul Meguid and Dr. Yousef Wali, Egyptian minister of agriculture.

After the meetings, Dr. Rifai and his accompanying delegation visited the Martyr's Monument in Amman. At the end of the visit Dr. Rifai was presented with a token gift by the Armed Forces inspector general, Dr. Nasreddin Al Assad, minister of higher education, accompanied by the Egyptian prime minister.

On Tuesday evening, Dr. Rifai met with representatives of the Egyptian community in Jordan and briefed them on the latest political, economic and social developments in Egypt.

Dr. Rifai said that his government was doing its best to help Egyptian expatriates to overcome difficulties and that the government would discuss the subject of offering customs facilities for expatriates upon their return home.

Mr. Rifai hosted an iftar banquet in honour of Dr. Rifai on Wednesday. The banquet was attended by members of the Egyptian delegation accompanying Dr. Rifai and senior Jordanian officials.

### Iraqi jets pound Sassan oilfield

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its planes attacked Iran's offshore Sassan oilfield in the southern Gulf on Wednesday, setting installations ablaze.

"Our aircraft penetrated the enemy defences to fire their missiles at 12:10 p.m. at the highly-important Sassan oilfields, setting them ablaze and returning safely to base," an Iraqi military communiqué said.

In Abu Dhabi, oil industry sources confirmed the attack on the field, 160 kilometres off the United Arab Emirates (UAE). They said workers at Abu Dhabi's nearby Abu Al Bukhoosh field were being evacuated as a precaution.

Sassan was put of action last November in an Iraqi air strike, involving a round-trip of 1,600 kilometres. Iran later started repairing the field.

Wednesday's Iraqi statement said Iraqi warplanes, penetrating through Iranian air defences, scored hits at the installations, reducing it to smouldering ashes.

There was no immediate comment from Iran on the air raid.

Iraq has been attacking Iranian oil fields, terminals, pumping stations, refineries and tankers in a campaign to choke off the Tehran government's oil-dependent economy by blocking its oil exports.

Iraq's stated aim is to put pressure on the government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and force it to negotiate a settlement to the 6½-year-old war.

Iran has often retaliated for Iraqi attacks by raiding neutral shipping in the southern Gulf.

Weizman, who has agreed to meet with him at the United Nations under certain conditions. "I said my challenge was not a confederation (between Palestinians and Israelis). My challenge is (forming) a democratic binational state..." Mr. Arafat said.

"We are ready to establish a state where Muslims, Christians and Jews can live together."

But he also said: "We have the right to use all methods to achieve our goals... it is an armed

(Continued on page 4)

### Arafat calls for bi-national democracy to replace Israel

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday demanded Israel should be replaced by a larger state, including the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in which Arabs and Jews could coexist.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman said he had conveyed to Israel, through a journalist he did not identify, an offer to discuss the idea with "any" Israeli leader.

He said in answer to a news conference question that he was ready to discuss the issue with Israeli cabinet minister Ezer

(Continued on page 4)

### Peres may call off U.S. visit

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is likely to cancel a trip to Washington next week if the cabinet does not approve his plan for an international peace conference, a government official said Wednesday.

The 10-member cabinet will debate the proposed conference on Monday, but a vote is not expected before Mr. Peres' scheduled trip to Washington two days later.

The ministers, members of a coalition government, are evenly split on the issue along party lines. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his right-wing Likud

oppose the plan, while Mr. Peres and his Labour Party favour it.

The proposed conference apparently has won the backing of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who has sent a document to Mr. Shamir in which he reassured the Israeli leader about U.S. conditions for such a conference, Israeli sources said.

An international conference would include the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, among them the United States and the Soviet Union.

(Continued on page 4)

### William Casey dies

GLEN COVE, New York (Agencies) — Former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey died early Wednesday in hospital at the age of 74, a hospital spokesman said.

Mr. Casey, who was CIA director from 1981 through January 1987 and had been linked to the Iran arms scandal, died in Glen

Cove Community Hospital, where he had been admitted 10 days ago.

The immediate cause of death was pneumonia, the spokesman said.

Mr. Casey, 74, underwent surgery Dec. 18 at Georgetown University Hospital for removal

(Continued on page 3)

Walsh files second case; Secord continues testimony

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Independent counsel Lawrence Walsh filed his second criminal case in the Iran-contra affair Wednesday as congressional investigators shifted the focus of their hearings from efforts to arm the Nicaraguan rebels to arms sales to Iran.

Mr. Walsh filed a conspiracy charge against public relations executive Richard R. Miller, and a hearing was expected to be held later in the day in U.S. district court.

Under questioning from counsel John Nields, Gen. Secord began detailing the 1985 sale of Israeli missiles to Iran, a transaction of which he said several U.S. officials were aware.

On Wednesday, Gen. Secord told of meetings in Paris and London at which an Iranian businessman wanted to swap

agreement with Mr. Walsh. Mr. Chammel pleaded guilty last week to a similar charge brought by Mr. Walsh, who is investigating the entire Iran-contra affair.

The criminal charge was filed shortly before, retired Major General Richard Secord resumed his testimony before the joint congressional committees investigating the affair.

"He came up with different formulas, so many Phoenixes for so many 'boxes,' as he called them, which was his code word for hostages," Gen. Secord said.

President Reagan has said his Iran initiative was never intended as an arms-for-hostages exchange.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday meets with an Egyptian delegation headed by Prime Minister Atif Sedki. Earlier, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai held talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister



Esmat Abdul Meguid in a meeting attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbe (Petra photos)

## Mubarak voices confidence in Arafat

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak says he has confidence in Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat despite a break between Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Mubarak also strongly indicated in a published statement that Egypt still considers the PLO the Palestinians' representative.

This week's issue of the state-owned magazine Al Muzzawar published what it said was the exclusive Mubarak statement. The issue will be published Thursday, but AP obtained an advance copy.

The magazine said Mr. Mubarak was reacting to remarks by Mr. Arafat in Kuwait on Sunday and Monday praising the Egyptian leader and dismissing the Cairo-PLO rupture as "minor."

Egypt closed the PLO's Egyp-

(Continued on page 3)

## Second Israeli air raid in one week kills 10 more Palestinians

said.

They said a salvo of four rockets devastated a block of 15 shacks in Safsaf, causing all the casualties in Wednesday's raid, all among civilians.

It was the second-heaviest

casualty toll of Israel's 14 air strikes in Lebanon this year.

Eighteen people were killed and 39 wounded in the last raid in the same area Friday.

Police said four jets bombers

blasted targets in and around Sidon's refugee camps of 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh in three

diver-bombing sorties at 5:45 a.m.

Six other warplanes flew as a

protective umbrella and two gun-

boats cruised off the coast as the

warplanes struck, 40 kilometres

south of Beirut and 60 kilometres

north of the Israeli border, police

said.

The densely populated

Safsaf neighbourhood in

'Ain Al Hilweh took the brunt of

the 30-minute attack that caught

the population of Lebanon's

largest refugee camp in Lebanon.

Many homes were levelled.

Scattered rubble was littered with

charred mattresses, torn clothes,

schoolbooks and children's toys.

A pall of black smoke hung over-head.

Pools of blood congealed in a

court yard where a 22-year-old

woman was killed and her baby

daughter were wounded.

"What can we do to stop all

this when the Arabs stand by and

watch us get killed," cried 26-

year-old refugee Nima Shimali,

whose mother was killed in the

raid as she stood in the kitchen

preparing coffee for the family.

"I was in the bathroom when

shrapnel split his head open."

"I can't wait to grow up and kill

as many Israelis as I can. Life has

no meaning when you see so

# U.S., Kuwait reportedly near agreement on tanker protection

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Kuwait are close to agreement on flying American flags from some Kuwaiti oil tankers to give them U.S. navy protection against Iran in the Gulf, administration officials have said.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, spoke with Reuters as shipping reports in the Gulf reported that Iranian forces had attacked a Japanese supertanker and a Panamanian tanker, both linked with Kuwait, in the past 24 hours.

They were the latest in a spate of attacks by Iran on vessels operating to Kuwait in the troubled Gulf. Tehran has accused Kuwait of providing material support for Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war.

"I understand we are close to agreement in principle with Kuwait to fly U.S. flags on some of their tankers," said one administration official. "We could then give them navy protection."

## Attempt to kill former Egyptian minister fails

CAIRO (R) — Former Egyptian Interior Minister Hassan Abu Bashra was recovering in hospital Wednesday after two gunmen, possibly Muslim extremists, tried to kill him.

An Interior Ministry official said Abu Bashra, 65, was shot outside his home Tuesday night by two "bearded gunmen."

Hospital officials said he had been hit in the right leg and left arm and was recovering steadily. Interior Ministry sources said

Administration officials said the U.S. Coast Guard was preparing to inspect Kuwaiti vessels to make sure they qualified for American flags.

"Procedural discussions took place last week between the Coast Guard and the Kuwait Oil Tanker Corp.," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said. "We are in the process of examining these ships to make sure they would meet U.S. requirements for reflagging."

Coast Guard spokesman Nicholas Sandifer told Reuters: "We would have to inspect for safety, pollution control, crew size and so on," adding that Coast Guard inspectors could he sent to Kuwait to inspect the ships.

In an effort to deter Iranian attacks, Kuwait has also chartered three Soviet tankers. Those would come under protection from a Soviet frigate or destroyer which occasionally enters the Gulf to escort Soviet ships.

Iran has attacked 15 vessels serving Kuwait this year, hitting 12 of them.

On April 25, an Iranian helicopter sprayed a Kuwait-bound tanker with canister fire at the mouth of the Gulf, shipping sources reported.

Meanwhile the Pentagon said Tuesday the United States and Kuwait have yet to strike any agreement that would allow Kuwaiti oil tankers to be registered under the U.S. flag but such talks are under way.

The change would entitle the Kuwaiti tankers "to the same protective status afforded to

other U.S. ships" in the Gulf, including escorts by navy warships, said Robert Sims, the Pentagon's chief spokesman on Tuesday.

"We've been consulting with the Kuwaitis on a number of issues, including the registration of some of their fleet as U.S.-flag vessels," Mr. Sims continued.

"Procedural discussions took place last week between the Coast Guard and the Kuwait Oil Tanker Corp. But as far as a specific change of registry, it just hasn't occurred. We're consulting at the moment."

Mr. Sims was asked about the matter following a published report in the Washington Post suggesting the two countries had "agreed in principle" to transfer up to 11 of the 22 ships owned by Kuwait to U.S. corporations to obtain American registry.

"I think perhaps the story ... was a little bit further along than reality," Mr. Sims responded.

## 12 killed in Sudan light plane crash

KHARTOUM (R) — A small chartered aircraft with two Dutch pilots and 10 passengers crashed shortly after take-off from Malakal in southern Sudan, a spokesman for the charter firm said Wednesday.

He told Reuters that all the passengers aboard the Cessna 404, owned by Sasco Air Charter, were believed to be Sudanese. The pilots were identified as Edward Folman and Theo Coenen.

The spokeswoman said the company did not receive any radio messages from the plane after it left Malakal airport at 2:50 p.m. (1250 GMT) Tuesday. She could not say whether there were any survivors.

"We don't know what exactly happened. There may be survivors. The army is sending people to the crash site to investigate and we have no reports of a fire in the bush where the plane crashed," she added.

Earlier, two newspapers reported that the aircraft was downed by anti-government rebels fighting troops in southern Sudan.

Al Midaan, paper of the Sudanese Communist Party, and the National Islamic Front's Al Rayah, said the plane was shot down by a missile 10 minutes after leaving Malakal and that all the passengers were killed.

There was no confirmation of these reports by Sudan's Defence Ministry or the Civil Aviation Authority.

Rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) shot down a Sudanese airliner last August over Malakal with a shoulder-carried SAM-7 missile. All 60 people on board were killed.

The rebels, who have been fighting troops in south Sudan since 1983, advised international airlines last month not to send their planes over rebel-held areas.

They said they had acquired the means to shoot down planes flying at high altitude, adding that the warning was issued because Sudanese Air Force planes had been using international air traffic routes on their missions.

Civil aviation sources, who refused to be identified, said the plane was on its way to Khartoum.

The New York Times reported Saturday that a U.S. congressional committee investigating the Iran-contra affair had compiled evidence that former White House aide Lt. Col. Oliver North persuaded Poland and China to sell weapons to the contras.

The Post quoted the U.S. sources as saying the rifles were shipped from the Polish port of Gdansk to Portugal and from there to Honduras.

The sources said shipping documents in Honduras listed the weapons as Israeli-made, according to the report.

It said the documents indicated that the Israeli Defence Ministry had authorised the transactions and knew the weapons were destined for the contras.

The report also said U.S. officials investigating the Iran-contra

affair have copies of the shipping documents.

A woman answering the telephone at the Israeli Defence Ministry said ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol told reporters the report was "totally and categorically baseless."

He reiterated the government position that Israel did not sell weapons to the U.S.-backed contras who are fighting against the leftist government of Nicaragua.

The Post quoted the U.S. sources as saying the weapons did not come from Lebanon, but directly from Poland. The newspaper quoted the sources as saying Poland got involved because it needed the hard currency.

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## King, Queen to open Amman SOS Children's Village today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The SOS Children's Village of Amman will be formally opened today at a ceremony under the patronage of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor. The ceremony will be attended by the president of the Austria-based SOS Children's Villages and senior Jordanian government officials.

The village, located west of here near Tareq town, has been built by the SOS Children's Villages of Austria on a piece of 33 dunums of land, provided by the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The village comprises 11 family houses, a director's house, a bakery, a supermarket, a staff house, a guest house and a kindergarten which opened its doors last year.

It was in 1982 when the idea of building a SOS Children's Village occurred to Her Majesty Queen Noor who contacted the then Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, during a visit with King Hussein to Austria.

Following the contacts, the founder of the SOS Children's Villages, Professor Herman Gmeiner, visited Jordan, was received by Queen Noor, and held talks with Jordanian officials.

This was followed in 1983 by the signing of an agreement for the establishment of the village.

In 1984 Queen Noor laid the cornerstone of the SOS Children's Village of Amman.

The village houses orphans and abandoned children up to the age

of 11. Care is provided by women with household experience serving as "mothers" for the destitute children.

The village is designed to provide for 43 children, but the number can be increased to 100.

Last week regional representative of the SOS villages in the Middle East, Mr. von Nidda, met with Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan to discuss services and conditions at the village and its responsibility by enforcing U.N. resolutions.

The minister was speaking during a meeting on Wednesday with an international information delegation, organised by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees, currently visiting Jordan to inspect the conditions of Palestinian refugee camps.

Mr. Dudin reviewed the development of the Palestinian problem, which he said, in addition to being a political problem, was also a problem of human suffering. Hundreds of thousands of refugees have been forced to abandon their homeland and to live in camps under difficult living conditions the minister stressed.

The minister also pointed out that Jordan supports efforts, in cooperation with the UNRWA, to provide better service and better living conditions to the refugees. He also stressed the need to increase the UNRWA budget to enable it to provide the basic necessities to the inhabitants of the 13 refugee camps, through increasing international contributions to the UNRWA budget.

Mr. Arafa pledged that the JEA was ready to prepare plans for the Mecca Street electrification project and for supervising the plan's implementation.

He also mentioned plans to electrify six kilometres of the Sweileh-Salt Highway and a similar distance of the Sweileh-Jerash Highway. The JEA will be financing this scheme.

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### Mubarak voices confidence in Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

AMMAN (J.T.) —

Mr. Mubarak also said in his Al Musawar interview that there was no special significance to an invitation to PLO dissident Atallah Atallah (Abu Zaim) to visit Egypt.

Atallah has led a year-old rebellion against Mr. Arafat's leadership of the PLO and its mainline Fatah guerrilla group. He said in Amman last Thursday that he was planned to visit Cairo this week, but there has been no indication that he had come.

"Those who try to attach a special significance to Abu Zaim's visit are making a mistake in understanding Cairo's attitude," Mr. Mubarak said. "Cairo's position on the Palestinian issue is firm, and its viewpoint in regard to the PLO has not changed."

This apparently meant that Cairo remains committed to the 1974 Arab summit resolution recognising the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Mubarak also pointed out that the invitation to Abu Zaim was extended before the Cairo-PLO break.

William Casey dies

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Casey, a statement issued by the White House, Mr. Reagan said: "Nancy and I have lost a long-time supporter, a wise and useful friend and a good friend."

Mr. Casey's death removed one of the central figures in the Iran-contra affair even as the scope of his role was still emerging.

The image of Mr. Casey that emerged from official reports of the Iran scandal was of a role somewhat akin to that attributed to his old friend, Mr. Reagan: either he knew more about the operations than he acknowledged, or he delegated much and paid little attention to detail.

Sen. Daniel Inouye, chairman of the Senate committee investigating the Iran-contra affair, opened the panel's second day of public hearings by noting Mr. Casey's death.

"In the coming weeks, as our inquiry unfolds, Mr. Casey's name will be heard frequently in regard to the Iran-contra affair — and if he did, he may have broken laws."

President Reagan said he had lost a good friend and America lost a patriot with the death of

## Dudin: Refugee relief is int'l duty

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin said that Palestinian refugees are an international problem and called on the international community to shoulder its responsibility by enforcing U.N. resolutions.

The minister was speaking during a meeting on Wednesday with an international information delegation, organised by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees, currently visiting Jordan to inspect the conditions of Palestinian refugee camps.

Mr. Dudin reviewed the development of the Palestinian problem, which he said, in addition to being a political problem, was also a problem of human suffering. Hundreds of thousands of refugees have been forced to abandon their homeland and to live in camps under difficult living conditions the minister stressed.

The minister also pointed out that Jordan supports efforts, in cooperation with the UNRWA, to provide better service and better living conditions to the refugees. He also stressed the need to increase the UNRWA budget to enable it to provide the basic necessities to the inhabitants of the 13 refugee camps, through increasing international contributions to the UNRWA budget.

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## Jordanian, Egyptian ministers discuss Aqaba-Nuweibeh transport

AMMAN (Petra) — The land-sea route between Aqaba, in southern Jordan, and Nuweibeh in Sinai, Egypt, was at the centre of talks here Wednesday between Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan and his Egyptian counterpart, Suleiman Mitwalli.

The two ministers, who are also involved in the current 6th Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee meetings in Amman, focused attention on means of encouraging travel and trade along the route between the two countries.

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Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan and his Egyptian counterpart, Suleiman Mitwalli, hold talks as part of 6th meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee. (Petra photo)

Egypt's setting up a microwave network in Sinai.

The minister added that he learned from his Egyptian counterpart, during the meeting of the higher committee, that envelopes containing the international tender for a permanent regional Arab link project between Jordan and Egypt have been opened and that the project is expected to be operational in one year.

Jordan, Mr. Husseini added, is now working on similar projects between Amman and Aqaba to prepare for this historical regional Arab link. This project will serve not only Jordan and Egypt but also regional Arab and international communications.

Once completed, the project will also make it possible for direct T.V. link between the two countries, and consequently, linking with the international sea cable networks stretching from Singapore to Marseille in France.

## Public safety panel checks pollution of Zarqa River

ZARQA (Petra) — The Public Safety Committee in Zarqa Governorate has recently been inspecting factories, businesses and companies in the upper basin of the Zarqa River in order to ensure that they abide by public safety regulations.

The committee, according to these measures, have been exempted from making advance payments of 10 per cent of the overall units' cost. They can also spread the instalments over 30 years, instead of 25, at an annual interest of 5.5 per cent.

As a result of the new measures, the Housing Corporation was flooded with applications from government employees seeking these housing units.

formity with regulations.

The committee is also calling for establishing a special fund for projects designed to protect the environment such as prohibiting the building of factories within two kilometres of the Zarqa River, Mr. Qatarni said.

He called on municipalities around the Zarqa River to carry out dredging operations, and urged owners of local factories and plants to cooperate with the Public Safety Committee.

## Fawziacs mimics ancient art

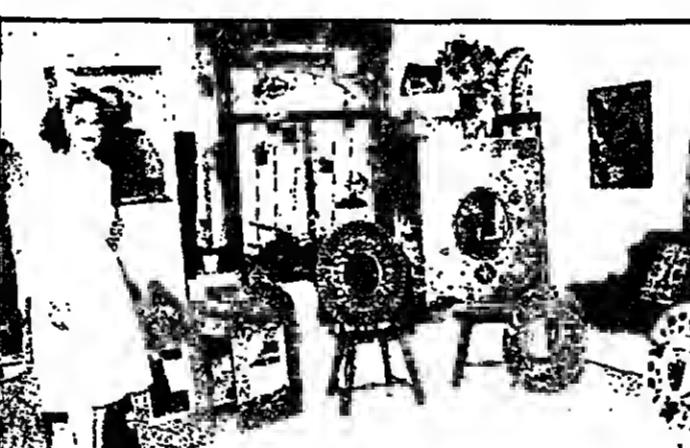
By Nermene Murad  
Special to the Jordan Times

Have you ever heard of an art school called fawziacs? The term is named after Mrs. Fawzia Hussein Al Farouqi's style of painting which depicts the original coloured stones, used in early mosaics, by using oil paint and water colours.

After Fawzia arrived in Amman at the end of her husband's career with the United Nations in 1978, with her two sons already married and with very limited acquaintance to town and its people, she was bored. After some time boredom turned into a state of desperation, and that evolved into a rare experience. In the living room of her spacious house in the outskirts of Amman, Fawzia told the story of boredom that exploded into an artistic expression characterised by her own fiery personality.

The idea for her work, she recalls, came to her while on a visit to Madaba's mosaics that adorn the Byzantine church there. She was very impressed and subsequently decided to make a mirror frame which depicted the same concept but in water colour. Her first mirror was seen by a close friend who asked if she could have it. That was five years ago. From that moment on she devoted herself to this art.

The first thing that strikes you when you visit her home is the front door. Fawzia has used brass to create an Islamic geometrical design on the wooden door. This design is used by her on wooden



Mrs. Fawzia Hussein Al Farouqi displays her art work, called fawziacs, and her plants at her home in Amman.

boxes and wooden engravings depicting Islamic style old houses and mosques.

Mrs. Farouqi is not your typical artist. Most of her work tries to balance artistic expression with function. This balance is the most appealing thing about her wooden work. Her pieces are not only objects of beauty, but practical things — tables, mirrors, boxes, and doors. Above all, each is an original piece of art.

Attention to detail is her trade mark. Paintings that other artists might do with elegant brush strokes, she does with impeccably detailed designs of mosaic. To achieve her mosaic look, she uses small brushes to make small dots and squares which eventually come out as a mosaic-like painting.

Saeed Farouqi, her husband, spoke about his wife's fanaticism with her work. He has many stories to tell. According to him, she often works until four in the morning and then wakes up at seven (often disturbing his sleep). She has never-ending stamina and drive to achieve things, he relates.

Mrs. Farouqi's garden is a clear demonstration of what her husband is talking about. Almost every kind of plant that can grow in this climate is there, if not in the garden, then inside her home.

Her love for life is self-evident. She expresses it in the way she talks, moves and looks.

It is difficult to describe her work in simple terms or to relate it to any established school of art. Yet, you feel the answer as you look at her work. She talks about every piece with love. You finally realise that, whatever she says, in the end, her work speaks for itself.

Discipline is what she prescribes for anyone who thinks they have the talent and desire to create. "I put goals for myself every day and I won't sleep until I have finished what I have set out to do."

The only obstacle she faces in her daily work regimen is when she is short of materials to start on a new idea. This, she says, is very frustrating because she can already feel the beauty of the work she wants to create before she even starts.

Fawzia has so far held one solo exhibition in the United Arab Emirates in November 1985 and took part in one group exhibition in Egypt.

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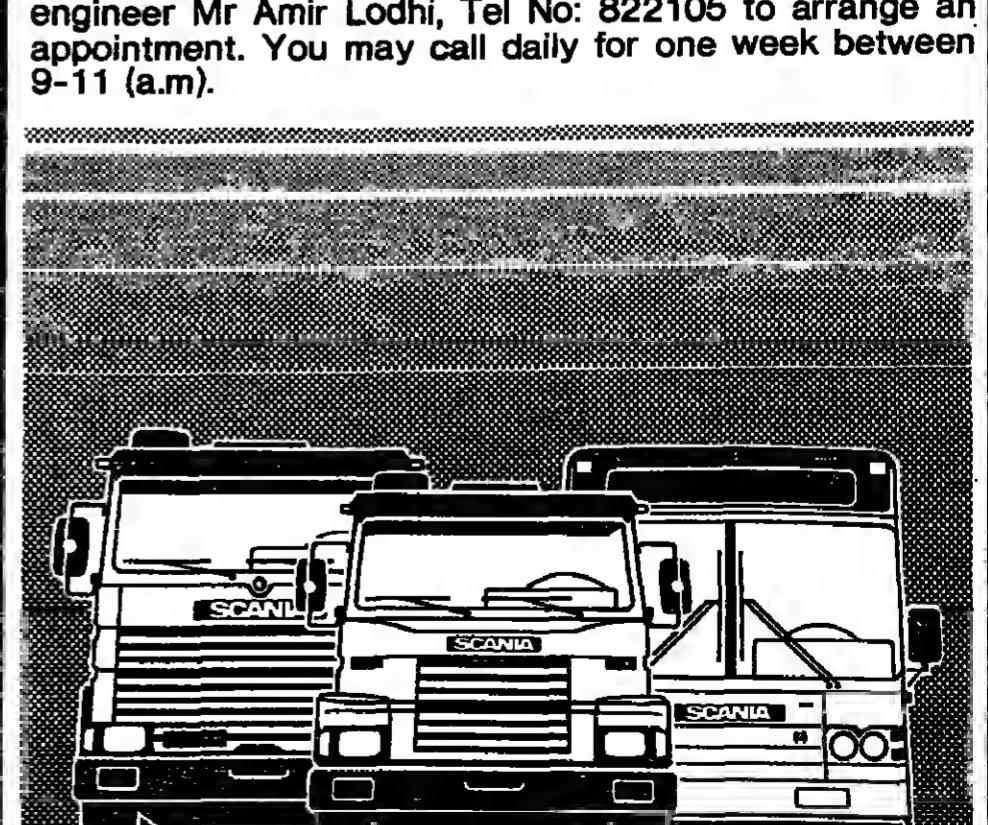
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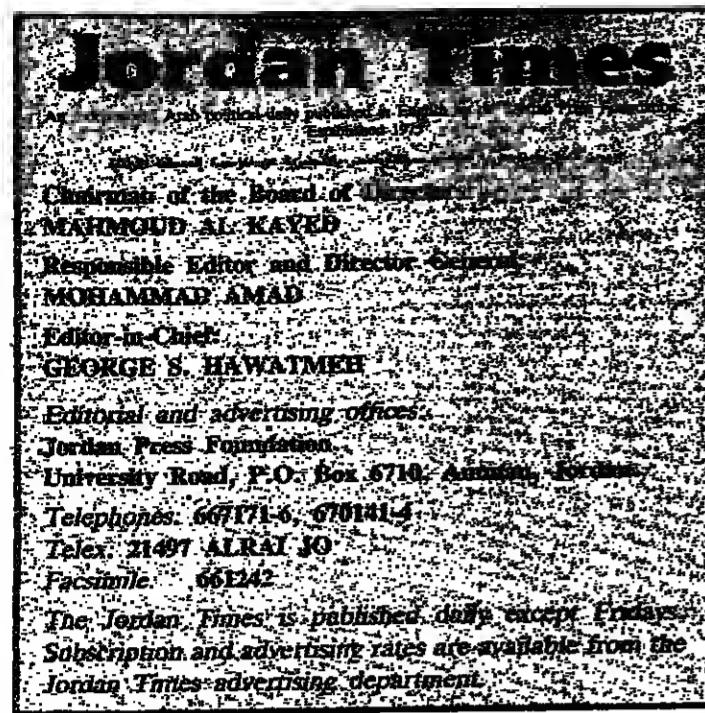
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## Gigantic step to summit

WE CANNOT but salute King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for his successful effort in bringing together the leaders of Algeria and Morocco to launch a new dialogue aimed at defusing the 11-year-old Western Sahara conflict. In fact, the summit between King Hassan II and President Chadli Benjedid has to be seen as a gigantic step towards paving the way for holding the long-awaited Arab summit in Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd singled out the Western Sahara problem as a crucial issue to be tackled before pressing ahead with attempts to solve other inter-Arab disputes, since the Moroccan-Polisario confrontation has been responsible, at various stages, for rival contentions and simmering tension among the Maghreb states, Libya and Mauritania included. Furthermore, the Western Sahara dispute has also brought about a rift between Morocco and the Palestinians because of the presence of a Polisario leader at the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers last month.

We cannot, of course, overlook the fact that Algeria and Morocco face a long road ahead before achieving a total defusion of tension in the Maghreb, but we take heart from the Saudi-sponsored Algerian-Moroccan summit, for it is an achievement in itself for such a meeting to take place and, secondly, because this is the right and only way in which Arab disputes can be solved. The Maghreb summit has given new life to hopes that the rest of the Arab leaders would emulate the Moroccan and Algerian heads of state and reconsider their stated positions which are the stumbling blocks in convening the 13th Arab summit in Riyadh. After all, no other inter-Arab dispute has been of such seriousness as the Western Sahara conflict which involves territory and sovereignty. The parties involved in such an issue have opted for talks rather than continuing the conflict which wastes precious resources and manpower much needed for the development of the Arab World.

A close scrutiny of the lingering inter-Arab problems can only show that none of these issues is beyond the reach of solutions through patient and sincere dialogue. We hope that the Maghreb summit would show the way for other leaders to reconsider their stands and move towards solving their problems through understanding and dialogue. The day is not far, we hope, when we could witness a coherent gathering of Arab heads of state in Riyadh for the 13th summit.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Towards joint action

THE sixth meeting of the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee assumes an added importance in view of the timing of the meeting and the subjects which it will address. This meeting which started Tuesday will deal with the past achievements as well as the plans for the future stage in cooperation between Jordan and Egypt in cultural, economic and political fields. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai is expected to hold talks with the Egyptian foreign minister on the issue of the international Middle East peace conference in a clear manifestation of the desire on the part of both countries to coordinate their efforts and their positions vis-a-vis an international meeting for solving the Middle East question. The two countries are undertaking the task of concerting their efforts at a time when the majority of world nations continue to display support for the idea of the international conference and when the Israeli leadership is deeply divided on this question. The talks in Amman come at a time when serious efforts are being made to end differences among various Arab states and to pool resources and efforts for the sake of regaining Arab rights and lands. The current meetings will be significant because they tackle important issues for the Arab Nation at a most crucial stage, and as Arab countries prepare for ending their differences and join their ranks to achieve their common goals.

#### Al Dustour: In service of the nation

THE Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee yesterday opened a sixth meeting in Amman under the co-chairmanship of the prime ministers of both countries. The meeting is clearly designed to further corroborate bilateral cooperation in economic, political and social fields and strengthen ties between the peoples of Egypt and Jordan in conformity with the wise policy laid down jointly by King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The existing bilateral cooperation is exemplary, and is concrete and realistic, benefiting the peoples of both countries and contributing positively towards full integration among Arab states. The success of such cooperation has been to date manifested in agricultural, trade, information, social and industrial fields and the current meetings in Amman are bound to add more momentum to this joint endeavour, and to offer a greater service to the Arab Nation as a whole.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Exemplary cooperation

THE Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee meetings in Amman have entered a new phase for developing bilateral cooperation and arriving at total integration between Jordan and Egypt. Both sides have identical views about the international Middle East peace conference as to who should attend and what is to be achieved from such conference. On the economic and social side both parties are agreed on promoting bilateral cooperation to achieve further prosperity through carrying out joint projects and conducting joint ventures benefiting the peoples of Egypt and Jordan. The result of cooperation between the two countries so far appeared in doubling the volume of trade in three years, raising it to JD 30 million annually. Also the barter agreement reached between the two countries is bound to offer more contributions in this endeavour. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai made it clear that the current meetings are designed to chart plans for greater measures of cooperation between the two sides in all fields. The committee has an enormous task that requires tremendous efforts and responsible action; but the determination on more prosperous relations exists, and therefore there is no doubt about the success of these endeavours.

## Powered by stronger economy, Italy gains strength

By Victor L. Simpson  
 The Associated Press

ROME — The tourists are streaming back, terrorism is contained and the economy is performing so well that Italy is demanding to sit down for dinner with the rich.

Depicted only a decade ago as a sick man of Europe, Italy is now enjoying what some are calling a second renaissance.

In today's Italy, not even a prolonged political crisis and the possibility of early elections can erase a mood that Italians, at last, are on the crest of an economic resurgence.

"The Italians finally have something to crow about. It's a great morale booster," says Dennis Mack Smith, the Oxford historian who is a leading authority on Italy.

There is no minimising the deep problems that remain: The traditional differences between Italy's wealthy north and its poor south; 11 per cent unemployment, including a large youth unemployment problem; the deeply entrenched organised crime syndicates in Sicily and Naples; and a government budget deficit of \$84 billion. The deficit is an exceptionally large 14 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product.

tic product.

But the recent growth of the Italian economy, and the nation's confidence, have been impressive.

Until the collapse this spring of Socialist Premier Bettino Craxi's five-party coalition, Italy went through 3½ years with the same premier and government, a post-

attracted more than a million new investors in the past two years. Italy is vying with Britain for the honour of being the West's fifth-largest industrial nation.

Italian style is again a world trend-setter, whether it be sleek office furniture, clothes or the "Mediterranean diet" of pasta and salads served around the world.

And this Easter saw 2.5 million foreign tourists come to Italy, up 20 per cent for the Easter holiday from 1986, according to the government tourism office.

The economic comeback has been led by big names such as automaker Fiat, Italy's largest private company, Olivetti, the computer manufacturer, and Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale (IRI), the giant state conglomerate founded by dictator Benito Mussolini that had long been a drain on the national treasury.

Those years were capped by the kidnapping and killing of former Premier Aldo Moro in 1978.

Some of the terrorism lingers. The leftist Red Brigades terrorist gang is held responsible for the killings this year of an Italian air force general and two policemen.

But now confidence is rising again and the Italian stock market is booming. The Milan market, the nation's largest, has

as premier?"

That Socialist, Bettino Craxi, blunt-spoken and combative, seemed to embody the style of the mid-1980s. He won popular support when he refused to yield to U.S. pressure to hand over a Palestinian accused as the mastermind in the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro in October 1985.

He was the first NATO leader to meet with Soviet chief Mikhail S. Gorbachev in Moscow. He was the first to receive Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski since Poland declared martial law in December 1981.

"The image of Italy is grown in the world," Craxi told parliament in his resignation speech, summing up his term of office.

Craxi's nationalistic pride has led some Italian cartoonists to picture him with the black shirt and high boots of Mussolini, whose authoritarian, fascist rule made this country wary of too strong a central government.

"Things change slowly in Italy but they do change," says Ludino Barzini, a magazine editor and former cultural commissioner of Milan. "Who would have thought Italy would ever have a Socialist

prime minister?"

The company, troubled at the time by labour unrest and the target of leftist terrorist attacks, had begun trimming its work force and introducing electronic robot-welders. The unions called a walkout. But after five weeks, 40,000 workers poured into the streets chanting "we want to

make a statistical case that Italy has made the *sorpasso*, or overtaking of Britain as the fifth-largest industrial nation.

British economists scoff at the notion. But there is no argument that the economic wheels are regained respectability. Government statistics show strikes are at their lowest level in 30 years.

There also appears to be a new ethos in the growth of magazines with such names as *capital* and *class*, the start-up of a second daily financial newspaper, and surveys showing that Fiat's chairman Giovanni Agnelli and telecommunications executive Massimo Belisario are among the most admired people in Italy.

While employment has suffered in heavy industry, the smaller firms have created new jobs.

The new *Pony Express* company provides rapid courier service, supplementing a slow government post office. *China Cen* (China dinner) and *Pronto Pizza* deliver Chinese food and pizza to homes, something unheard of previously.

While serious problems remain for Italy, "the fear of dying in the desert has passed," says Romano Prodi, who has led the turnaround at IRI.

"Today people have started to think of the future again, but not yet to plan seriously."

### Peres may call off U.S. visit

(Continued from page 1)

The Israeli government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity told AP that without cabinet approval for the plan, there is little use for Mr. Peres to go to Washington to discuss the issue.

"The way it looks right now, a trip is unlikely to take place," the official said.

The official also said the cabinet may debate the proposed conference in several sessions over the next few weeks, and Mr. Peres "would not want to elaborate away from the scene."

Mr. Shultz told AP he favoured negotiations with Israel on the basis of the U.N. resolutions, but declined to elaborate.

At a Labour forum Monday Mr. Peres named Mr. Freij and Mr. Shawwa as acceptable

for peace talks. Israeli Radio stations said Wednesday that Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and former Gaza Mayor Rashad Shawwa were under consideration.

Mr. Freij told Israel army radio he favoured negotiations with Israel on the basis of the U.N. resolutions, but declined to elaborate.

He said he did not object to Jordan's demand that the PLO be invited to any peace talks, since he did not believe the movement would accept the conditions for participation.

Jordan has said all parties to a peace conference must renounce violence and terror, and accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which call for Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in 1967 in exchange for peace and implicit recognition of Israel.

Mr. Shamir on Wednesday headed up the government debate, saying the Labour Party was ready to negotiate with the PLO.

"I have good reasons to believe that ... the Labour Party today is ready to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation," Mr. Shamir said in remarks carried by Israeli army radio.

Mr. Peres responded angrily to Mr. Shamir's allegations, saying that "the Labour Party is not going to negotiate with the PLO and opposes inviting the PLO to an international conference," Israel Radio reported.

### Arafat calls for bi-national state

(Continued from page 1)

"refused it all along." Referring to Israeli air raids on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, he asked: "Do you think they are playing games?"

Mr. Arafat arrived in Bahrain Tuesday night on the fourth leg of a Gulf tour to explain the outcome of last month's meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers.

Asked about Egypt's closure of PLO offices after the PNC criticised Cairo's Middle East policies, Mr. Arafat said the issue was "a very small problem... a summer cloud."

Kuwait and Iraq were acting as mediators to heal the rift, he said.

Mr. Arafat rejected Egyptian statements that the PNC insulted Cairo, saying: "We referred to Egypt with brotherly affection and love."

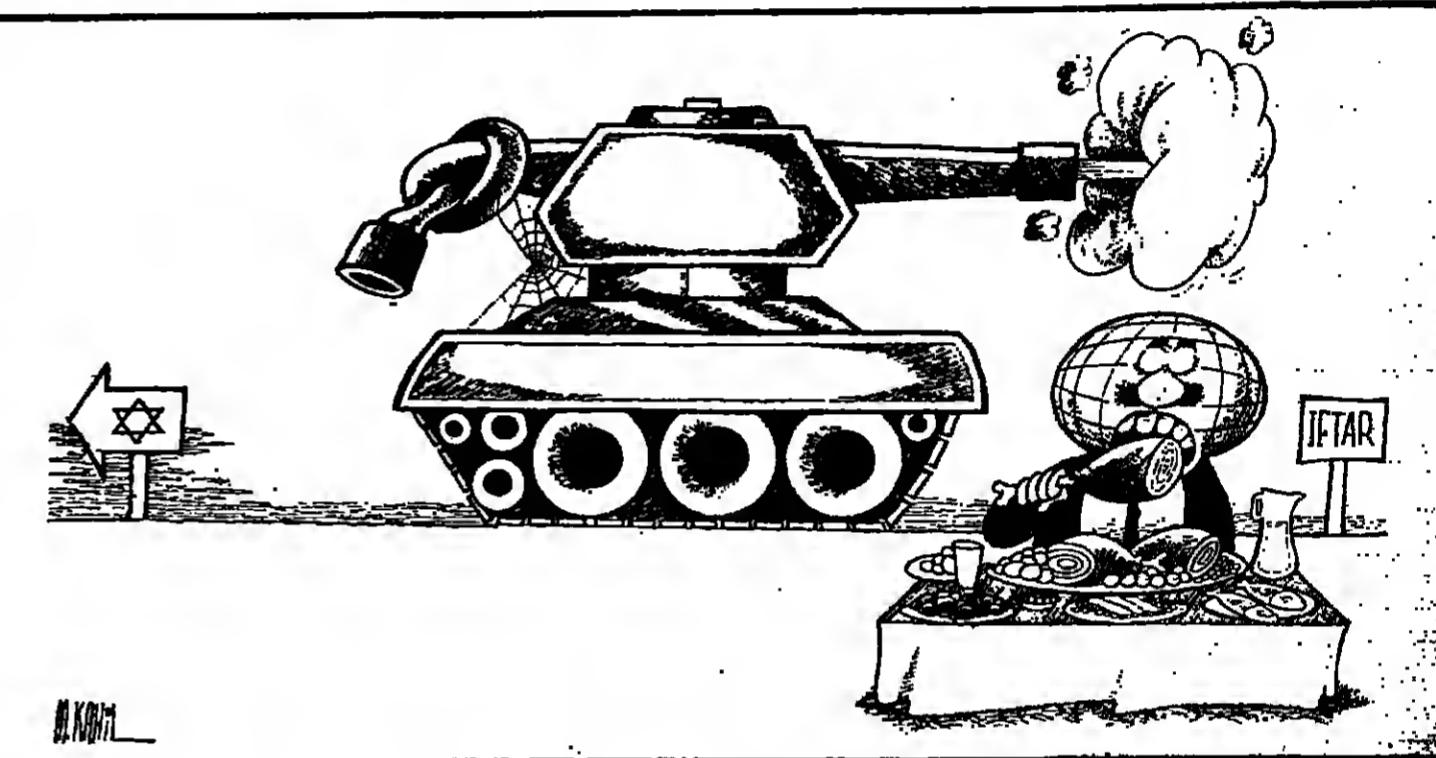
The AP quoted Mr. Arafat as saying in an interview that the PLO had never advocated "throwing Israel into the sea."

"We never raised that slogan, no Palestinian ever did," he said. "In fact, we have from the start called for a secular, democratic, bi-national state on the entire Palestinian soil, on which Arab and Israelis could live in peace."

Mr. Arafat rejected as false the reports that attributed the slogan to his predecessor, the late Ahmed Al Shukri, whom reporters quoted as making that call on the eve of the 1967 war.

"When we talk of a democratic state in Palestine we mean the entire Palestinian soil (including Israel) and not just the West Bank and Gaza," said Mr. Arafat. "The political structure of the desired state would be fully democratic institutions, and its mechanics be whatever free elections might evolve."

He stressed that the idea of a dual-nationality state was first aired more than two decades ago, and the Israeli leadership has



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## Ticket problem is a myth, says Olympic official

ISTANBUL (R) — Reports that the Calgary Olympic organisers were in trouble over their ticketing policy for next year's winter games were dismissed Wednesday as a myth by organising committee chairman Frank King.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has indicated it was concerned at reports that Calgary was in difficulties over ticket distribution.

The organisers recently increased their ticket allocation by 190,000 when it became apparent that showpiece sports such as skiing and skating had been sold out without any tickets having been made available outside North America.

But King, speaking to reporters on the eve of an IOC executive board meeting which is expected to level some searching questions at the Calgary organisers, said: "There is no ticket situation. It's a myth."

King admitted that the organisers were aware of "some confusion, particularly among the West European National Olympic committees, about the availability of tickets. One of the reasons we're glad to be here is to clear up that confusion, because there is no reason for any concern."

In fact, King said, the Calgary total of 1.9 million tickets was nearly four times greater than the number available at each of the two previous winter games in Sarajevo and Lake Placid.

"Given the number of tickets available, I find it difficult to believe there will be ticket shortages in Calgary that are worse than at previous games," he added.

He also stressed that the games

venues were large enough to accommodate the extra seating which would be needed following the allocation of the extra tickets.

Asked whether there was any justification for the IOC to be concerned, he replied: "None whatsoever, and I don't believe they are — or at least they won't be when we leave Istanbul."

The Calgary delegation is scheduled to present a progress report to the executive board on Friday before facing the full IOC session on Sunday.

### IOC delegation to visit N. Korea

ISTANBUL (R) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is hoping to send a delegation to Pyongyang later this month in advance of a July meeting between North and South Korean Olympic committees, authoritative IOC sources said Wednesday.

Despite three rounds of bilateral talks since 1985, North Korea has so far refused to accept an IOC compromise offer following its demand for a share of next year's Seoul Summer Olympics.

Pyongyang, which originally demanded a half-share of the games, still insists on staging contests in eight of the 23 sports on the programme.

In an unprecedented move aimed at averting any threat of a communist boycott, the IOC and the Seoul organisers have offered the North two sports events,

archery and table tennis, as well as the start of the 100-km cycle road race and some preliminary round soccer matches.

The IOC has said it will not make any further substantial concessions and has set a deadline of Sept. 17 — exactly a year before the start of the games — for the North to accept the compromise.

It was agreed to host a fourth round of talks between Olympic officials of the two countries at its Lausanne headquarters on July 14-15.

The sources told Reuters that IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch had asked the North Korean National Olympic Committee (NOC) to allow an IOC delegation to visit Pyongyang towards the end of May to facilitate preparations for the July meeting.

At 1.73 metres and a trim 69 kg, Beer competes against 25 to

## 33-year-old tennis player still reigns

BURLINGAME, Calif. (R) — Ken Beer believes that it's never too late and his exploits on tennis courts across the United States serve as inspiring testimony.

While many of the world's best known players fade from the fore by their mid-30s, Beer hits his stride at four score. Aged 83, he reigns as undisputed king of the over-80 competitions held in amateur tennis tournaments all over the country.

"When my friends come out to watch, they say it's like watching Wimbledon — hit in slow motion," says Beer.

Bear claimed the singles "Grand Slam" at 80 by winning the national titles on hardcourt, clay, grass and indoors, and repeated the feat in 1985 and 1986. The former commercial airlines pilot has played in 16 national singles championship events over the last four years and won all but one.

"Why do I do it? For the same reason a climber tackles a mountain — because it's there," he said. "It's the challenge. The harder a match is, the more I grit

30 of his peers who travel the circuit across the country. Like him they are devoted to the game, and ailments that inevitably accompany age seldom hold them back.

One wears a pacemaker, another, following an operation for arthritis, began to use a strap round his hand and wrist to prevent his racket from slipping. Others have returned from major surgery to continue competing.

"We're all in about the same shape," Bear says. "Maybe I have fewer complaints than most."

Bear has little trouble withstanding matches that last two or more hours and once won a tournament played in 108 degrees Fahrenheit (42 Centigrade) — temperatures that could wilt a player 50 years his junior.

"Why do I do it? For the same reason a climber tackles a mountain — because it's there," he said. "It's the challenge. The harder a match is, the more I grit

my teeth.

"Out on a court you have to do it all yourself. I think a player can figure out important truths out there. For me, this is living life to the fullest."

Bear did not pick up a racket until he was 30, but then quickly caught the tennis bug.

Success in tournament play did not come quickly. But his game steadily progressed and he moved up the national rankings in various age groups until he came to dominate the over-80.

He sees each loss as "an opportunity to learn a lesson," though his rare setbacks usually come when playing an opponent from a younger age category.

"I don't like to lose. But I don't worship winning by any means," he says. "Losing is an opportunity that winning isn't."

Bear maintains a rigorous routine. He works against a ball machine at his local tennis club from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday.

## Who will join Villa in division two?

LONDON (AP) — With the championship already won, attention in the English League focuses on the battle to avoid relegation and the complex new system of play-offs which will decide who goes up and who goes down.

While Everton celebrates its second title in three years with a home game against Luton Town, Manchester City, Leicester City and Charlton Athletic face nerve-wracking games which decide whether they will remain in the top flight next season.

Under the new system, which is designed to trim the first division from 22 to 20 teams in the next two seasons, three clubs automatically will drop through the trap-door to division two to be replaced by two.

Another division one side finishing immediately above the doomed teams, will fight out a series of play-offs with the sides finishing 3-5 in division two. The

winner will play in division one. Bottom of the division one standings, Aston Villa already knows it will play division two soccer next season, while next to bottom Manchester City is hanging on grimly with two points to make up on Leicester and Charlton.

In Saturday's final games, the Manchester side travels to unpredictable West Ham United, Charlton hosts mid-table Queens Park Rangers and Leicester visits an Oxford United side which ensured its survival on Tuesday.

Already destined to replace them from division two are Derby County and Portsmouth, while Oldham Athletic knows it will be in the play-off. Scrambling over the two other play-off places are Leeds United, Ipswich Town, Crystal Palace and Plymouth Argyle.

For Aston Villa, the drop to division two comes only five seasons after it won the European

Champions' Cup by beating Bayern Munich in Rotterdam.

A big-spending, ambitious club with one of the finest stadiums in the country — 48,000-capacity Villa Park — Villa has slumped dramatically since the break-up of that 1982 side, of which four playets — goalkeeper Nigel Spink, defenders Alan Evans and Gary Williams, and striker Gary Shaw — remain.

Villa's relegation means that for the first time in English soccer history, Birmingham, often described as "Britain's second city" behind London, will not be represented in division one next season.

Neighbours West Bromwich Albion and Birmingham City were relegated last season and failed to mount a promotion challenge this term.

Villa's demise has led to speculation about the future of manager Billy McNeill, who found fame when he captained Glasgow Celtic to success in the 1967 champions' cup.

Club chairman Doug Ellis said a board meeting has been called for Monday when the relegation issue will be discussed.

McNeill, who has three years of his contract left to run, said: "It is sad to see such a great club bound for the second division."

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Iraq boycotts UAE soccer team

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's Olympic committee said Wednesday Baghdad would boycott the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) national soccer team following the behaviour of UAE fans during an Olympic games qualifying match in Dubai which Iraq won 3-0. The committee, led by President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday, said in a statement it strongly deplored the attacks on Iraqi players last Friday. "The UAE soccer federation bears full responsibility for the immoral practices and open attacks against our players and fans," the statement said. It said the boycott, applying to all matches between the two countries, including friendlies, would not be cancelled unless the UAE soccer federation "admitted its mistakes and returned to the correct path." Iraq's leading sports newspaper, Al Baath Al Riyadhi, on Sunday criticised the behaviour of UAE fans, saying they threw empty bottles at Iraqi players and fans without any action from police. The Dubai match put Iraq into the next regional qualifying round for the 1988 Olympic games in South Korea, along with Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait.

### UEFA receives Real Madrid appeal

ZURICH (R) — A formal appeal has been received from Spanish club Real Madrid against part of the sanctions imposed by the European Football Union (UEFA) at the weekend, an official said Wednesday. Press spokesman Rudolph Rotheneuher said that Real had appealed only against the "no-crowd" punishment, adding that a date for the hearing was still to be fixed. UEFA's Control and Disciplinary Committee ordered the Spanish champions to play their next two European home matches behind closed doors because of violence during the second leg of the European cup semifinal against Bayern Munich last month. UEFA's sanctions against Real included a 40,000-Swiss franc (\$27,200) fine for the "unsportsmanlike behaviour" of their players in the first leg of the semifinal in Munich and a four-year ban on the club's veteran winger Juanito Gomez, who was sent off during the match.

### Everton tour match cancelled

SYDNEY (AP) — A proposed soccer match between British champion Everton and Australian state team New South Wales has been cancelled, the New South Wales (NSW) soccer federation announced Wednesday. Everton was due to play NSW in Sydney on June 6 or 7. The English club now will play only one off-season match in Australia, against the Australian national team in Melbourne on date to be confirmed.

### Disabled Canadian ends round-Britain run

LONDON (AP) — Canadian Steve Fonyo, a cancer victim who had a leg amputated at the age of 12, completed a 1,000-mile (1,600-kilometre) charity run around Britain on Tuesday. Fonyo, 21, who ran 5,000 miles across Canada last year, said the British marathon would be his last run for charity. He is aiming to raise \$1.6 million pounds (\$1.6 million) for Britain's cancer research campaign. Last winter, during the early stages of the run, Fonyo said he was hampered by snowstorms in Scotland and encountered difficulty with his artificial leg. He arrived back in London's Trafalgar Square to a tumultuous reception from scores of well-wishers and onlookers.

### Fins miss Corsica race after Toivonen death

AJACCIO (R) — World championship front-runners Juha Kankunen and Markku Alen will miss this week's Corsican rally following the death of fellow-Finn Henri Toivonen in last year's race.

The Finns do not like the Corsican roads and they want to honour the memory of their compatriot, who died with New York co-driver Sergio Cresto when their Lancia crashed on a mountain road last year.

It was the second fatal accident in the Corsican rally in 12 months after Italian Attilio Bettega died in the 1985 race, and it prompted the International Motor Sports Federation (FISA) to change championship rules to improve safety and outlaw the most powerful group B cars.

There will be no number four car in this year's Corsica rally because the vehicles of both Bettega and Toivonen carried that number in the ill-fated races.

Kankunen, world champion last year with Peugeot, 1986 runner-up, Alen and former world champion Walter Röhrl of West Germany — the top three in this year's standings after four events — will all be absent when the three-day race gets underway on Thursday. It covers nearly 1,400 kilometres.

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Performances 3:30, 5:10, 9:00, 10:45

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

THE VALACHI PAPERS

Performances 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

SHANGHAI SURPRISE

Performances 3:15, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema PLAZA

Tel: 677420

BINGO BINGO

Performances 3:30, 5:10, 9:00, 10:45

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

COCONUTS

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.6810/20	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.3368/73	Canadian dollar
1.7765/72		West German marks
2.0030/40		Dutch guilders
1.4600/10		Swiss francs
36.80/90		Belgian francs
5.93/09/420		French francs
1272/1273		Italian lira
139.10/20		Japanese yen
6.2150/2200		Swedish krona
6.6220/70		Norwegian krona
6.6810/60		Danish krona
456.00/456.50		U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were back from their intra day highs on Wednesday, hesitating as the market waits for the Bank of England to sanction the fall in base rates currently being sought by the U.K. money markets.

Prices have risen sharply in recent sessions, with investors entering the market in the hope that U.K. clearing bank base rates will come down to nine per cent from 9½.

But the Bank of England made it clear by its money market operations that it wants base rates to hold steady for the moment. This brought small selling, leaving the 1430 GMT FTSE 100 index up 27.3 to 2,092.4 after an earlier peak of 2,096.

The FTSE 100 index cautiously approached 2,100 during the day, although some charists are saying this level could spark some fairly heavy profit-taking.

June FTSE 100 index futures are currently quoted at 2,109, suggesting that futures investors see limited fresh upward potential for shares in the medium term. U.K. stock index futures often trade as much as 30 points either side of the spot index.

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

## FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have an unusually good day to get into all the details connected with the goals set firmly in your mind. Perfect these conditions for efficient expression.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get your work planned so that it will be a breeze to handle properly. Come to an agreement with a co-worker.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make plans for the amusements you desire to have with congenials. Take time to make repairs at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If your home needs repair, plan to do this now. Make sure that you get more than one estimate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can easily express yourself either orally or in writing, but be careful of what you state.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Study all your bills and find a better system for handling your money. See if your property needs repair.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are a perfectionist and should now express this in both your home and personal life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Find the right way to spruce up your appearance. Be a bit happier and bring your mate closer to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you are more precise in stating what it is you want from others, there's a better chance of getting it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have many outside tasks to handle and should get right at them. Be more efficient at the office.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are inspired, toward progressive ideas. Watch for a letter from a distance that can be enlightening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study the promises you've made and handle the practical ones first. Try to do what your mate requests.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Long conversations with an inquiring partner can bring you support. Stop procrastinating on some public affair.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will be very capable at making plans, designs and blueprints for whatever is of interest and then carry them out to a successful conclusion. Plan an education along such lines and there can be much success here. Sports must not be neglected.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Put aside any matter that's long been delayed and concentrate on some interesting new venture or undertaking. Don't get into any confrontations.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to organize your work, since later arguments may arise and you will have to stave them off.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have fine business acumen today, but do not commit yourself to any expenses. Control your temper.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A conversation with one who has the right information can bring you fine benefits, provided it's confidential.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Approach a good pal for assistance with a new project. Avoid the social side of life today.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be wise in handling community affairs. Let the influential people in your life know you agree with their plans.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Show that you will consider the views of a practical person, even if they are different than your own.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Come to the right understanding with one to whom you owe money before you delve into a new project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can now convince a recalcitrant associate to agree with your views concerning some important matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be conscientious in the handling of your work. Avoid a partner who likes to take up your time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Before you plan recreation, study the cost well. Don't argue with a fellow worker over some project.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Know what the needs of your family are and try to help them. Don't go off on some silly tangent today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) One who looks to you for help through the mail deserves an answer. Don't let some family argument distract you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will be most capable at building a solid and secure structure, both literally and financially, and this practical person should have a fine education to add to this natural talent. Teach this child not to be too forceful in his, or her, life for best results.

## Manila plans to launch \$18 billion job schemes

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Corazon Aquino said Tuesday her financially strapped government plans to spend 365.7 billion pesos (\$18.4 billion) in job-generating projects over six years. But she did not say how she will raise the money.

In a speech to more than 1,000 business men, Mrs. Aquino said the economy was picking up, but acknowledged that her economic advisers were uncertain if this is a "sure sign of sustained growth."

Mrs. Aquino termed her government's relationship with private business as harmonious, but added: "We would welcome substantial investments in employment-generating, export-oriented, agriculture-based and import-substituting industries."

Mrs. Aquino said government investments would give priority to generating jobs and foreign exchange instead of buying out established, flourishing enterprises. But she did not say from where the government investment would come.

"It appears that everything is now in place and in motion," she said, "so much that many sectors now speak, not of recovery, but of economic growth and accelerated development."

Mrs. Aquino also said her government is determined to recover money allegedly misappropriated by the previous administration. She vowed to "untangle the web of corruption spun by Marcos and his cronies."

## Dhaka amends industrial laws

DHAKA (R) — President Hossain Mohammad Ershad has changed Bangladesh's industrial laws to allow state-owned industries to sell 49 per cent of their shares to staff and private investors, officials said Wednesday.

They said President Ershad Tuesday amended a 172 ordinance by the country's first president, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, that nationalised all industries and banks.

President Ershad announced a privatisation policy to boost the sagging industrial sector soon after he seized power in a bloodless coup in March, 1982, and has since returned over 500 industrial companies to private owners.

His policy has been opposed by Rahman's daughter, Sheikh Hasina of the Bangladesh Awami League, and other opposition leaders who say there is no job security in private companies.

Last week, thousands of bank employees and industrial workers demonstrated in Dhaka and other cities to protest against the denationalisation plans.

According to the amended ordinance, the government would hold 51 per cent shares of an industry, members of the public would hold 34 per cent and staff would hold the rest.

The ordinance also allows workers to nominate a member to the board of directors if they bought at least 12 per cent of the shares of an industry.

## Major slump in military orders brings down Dassault's profits

PARIS (R) — A major slump in foreign orders for military jets last year hit the profits of French aerospace group Avions Marcel Dassault-Breguet aviation, which makes the Mirage jet fighter, a spokesman said Tuesday.

He said a 36 per cent drop in profits last year, to 293.4 million francs (\$49.7 million), forced the company to cut jobs for the first time in its history, to 15,000 from 15,800.

Sales slipped five per cent to 15.6 billion francs (\$2.6 billion).

Dassault usually exports about two-thirds of its production, but last year sold only nine Mirage 2000 planes abroad.

In addition, Peru last year cut an initial order for 26 Mirage 2000s back to just 12 planes for a combination of political and economic reasons.

In January, the Swiss military rejected a Franco-German trainer jet in which Dassault has a stake, opting for the British Hawk instead, while last month Dassault suspended deliveries of Mirages to Egypt because of payment delays on planes already delivered.

Export sales were hit by economic recession, and some Middle Eastern customers were hurt by the slump in oil prices.

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The breadbasket province of Alberta, the social fabric is unravelling because of farm debt and the demise of small rural committees, Mr. Friesen told reporters.

Some are diversifying to beans, peas and mustard seed, but the soil and climate in the northern prairies are unsuitable for other crops. The government estimates wheat acreage will decline about seven per cent this season.

The Wheat Board, which markets all Canadian grain, absorbed a record loss of 200 million dollars (\$152 million) last year when world prices fell below forecast levels.

The breadbasket province of Alberta, the social fabric is unravelling because of farm debt and the demise of small rural committees, Mr. Friesen told reporters.

This was 30 per cent more than in the same period of 1986 despite a "gentleman's agreement" that the annual rise in exports would be held at 10 per cent, the officials said.

Mr. Friesen said Canada's western grain farmers will receive 3 billion dollars (\$2.3 billion) in government aid this year, an increase of 50 per cent.

Unlike U.S. growers, Canadians are out paid to leave their land idle, and in the current glut, the more they grow the lower prices could plunge.

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Some are diversifying to beans, peas and mustard seed

# Philippine army vows to stop attempts to disrupt elections

MANILA (R) — Philippine military leaders vowed Wednesday to stop attempts from the right or left to disrupt Monday's nationwide congressional voting as poll officials said they had imposed direct control on 14 election "hot spots" around the country.

Defense Secretary Rafael Iletto and Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos said troops were in a country-wide state of readiness for attempts by Muslim or Communist rebels, or by dissident troops loyal to ex-President Ferdinand Marcos, to disrupt the May 11 vote.

"We are prepared for any eventuality," Gen. Ramos declared.

Military officials in the tense south of the country said troops were on "triple red alert" amid signs that crucial talks between Muslim rebels and government negotiators may be reaching common ground.

Mr. Iletto told reporters a single major sticking point, which he did not reveal, remained to be "thrashed out."

In Manila, a spokesman for the official Commission on Elections (Comelec) told Reuters the organization had expanded to 14 from five the number of regions in which it will take direct control and supervision of voting. He added more regions may be added to the list before Monday.

The "hot spots" where authorities fear election day violence and possible intimidation and fraud, include Sulu province, Misamis province in the central

Philippines, and large areas of Mindanao Island.

Some districts in Manila have also been placed under Comelec control. The military said it had deployed troops to trouble spots and was keeping extra soldiers in reserve.

Mr. Iletto made no direct reference to military intelligence reports last week that renegade officers loyal to Mr. Marcos planned a terror campaign to disrupt the poll — regarded as the first genuinely free election to be held in the Philippines in almost two decades.

"The atmosphere is very good," Mr. Pelaez said. "I think the chances of success have increased. Before it was 50-50, but now it's 70-30."

Moro National Liberation Front chairman Nur Misnari, who met with Mr. Pelaez on Tuesday afternoon by armed men in the town of Molundo in Lanao Del Sur province, 830 kilometres south of Manila, the agency said.

PNA said negotiations were under way for release of the six remaining captives. There was no word on the kidnappers' demands.

The agency quoted Brig.-Gen. Mariano Adelano as saying the kidnappers were from a splinter group of the Muslim Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which has been waging an insurgency for 15 years.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) issued a statement Wednesday saying it was taking all possible steps to ensure the

rapid release of the workers.

Jean-Daniel Tauxe, deputy director of ICRC in Manila, told the Associated Press that the workers failed to return to their headquarters in the Mindanao city of Cagayan De Oro as scheduled on Tuesday.

He said a Red Cross team from Manila was on its way to Mindanao to investigate.

Tauxe identified the Swiss nationals as Alex Braunwalder and Jacky Sudan.

The news agency quoted provincial Police Commander Lt.-Col. Omar Manabiling as saying the other five abducted were Filipino nurses, plus the driver.

They were abducted Tuesday afternoon by armed men in the town of Molundo in Lanao Del Sur province, 830 kilometres south of Manila, the agency said.

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